

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the Abstract with the following amended Abstract.

~~Disclosed are a~~ A method and apparatus for ensuring the integrity of data. ~~In one embodiment, the present invention, for~~ For a plurality of data packets comprising a plurality of first data segments and a plurality of second data segments, ~~calculates a cryptographic checksum~~ is calculated for the plurality of first data segments, ~~and enables the~~ The cryptographic checksum is enabled for the plurality of first data segments to be transmitted separately from the plurality of data packets.